Congressman Blumenauer convened a meeting to discuss his Water for the World legislation, and to hear from Portland residents who work on international clean water issues - from Haiti to Zambia to Nicaragua, and many countries in between.

The Congressman hosted the meeting to share the progress his bill, Water for the World (H.R. 3658) has made in garnering support from both sides of the aisle – 23 Republicans and 38 Democrats. He was briefed by a variety of constituent engineers, volunteers, and leaders from the faith and non-profit community (as large as Mercy Corps and small as WaterAfrica) who live and work in the Portland area, but have traveled the world to bring clean water to millions of people.

Kevin Palau of the Luis Palau Foundation and Pastor Rick McKinley of the Imago Dei church community have been national advocates for clean water and expressed their appreciation to the Congressman as a neutral convener, Blumenauer concluded the conversation by saying, "Perhaps we've not harnessed the power of these successful stories. With so little money you are transforming individual lives, and your work is making this happen everywhere — one community at a time. While the statistics can be overwhelming and the numbers make people feel the task is impossible, this conversation and your work reminds me why H.R. 3658 should be voted on and passed. It will help government be the best possible partner - making sure every dollar is used well, and every project is sustainable by the members of the community."

